

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	<b>MAIL STOP RCE</b>
Hiroshima FUJIMARU et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1762
Application No.: 10/581,343	)	Examiner: Satya B. SASTRI
Filed: June 2, 2006	)	Confirmation No.: 5041
For: PARTICULATE WATER	)	
RETAINING MATERIAL FOR	)	
CULTIVATING PLANT HAVING	)	
WATER ABSORBENT RESIN AS	)	
MAIN COMPONENT	)	

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Official Action issued on October 14, 2011, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. Amendments to the claims are set forth in the listing of claims which begins at page 2 of this paper. As well, Applicants' remarks begin at page 9 of this paper. A Request for Continued Examination is being concurrently filed herewith.